

This is a national stage application of International Application No.

a₁ PCT/US99/13024, filed June 11, 1999, which was published under PCT Article 21(2) as PCT Publication No. WO 00/77196 in English.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 5 and 6 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 3, 4, 7, 11, and 20-23 to read as follows.

a₂ 3. (Amended) A purified protein comprising the amino acid sequence depicted in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:2) with one or more conservative substitutions relative to said sequence, wherein the purified protein is not contained in a gel.

4. (Amended) A purified protein comprising the amino acid sequence depicted in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:2) from amino acid residues 1 to 93 with one or more conservative substitutions relative to the sequence in Figure 2, wherein the purified protein is not contained in a gel.

a₃ 7. (Amended) A purified protein comprising at least 8 contiguous amino acids of the gp35 protein sequence depicted in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:2) from amino acids numbers 1 to 24, and which displays one or more functional activities of a gp35 protein, wherein the purified protein is not contained in a gel.

a₄ 11. (Amended) The protein of claim 4 which specifically binds with the P34 protein oligomer of bacteriophage T4.

a₅ 20. (Amended) A purified molecule comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 30% identity to amino acids numbers 57 to 93 in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:2) over a 36 amino acid sequence, wherein the purified molecule is not contained in a gel.

21. (Amended) A purified protein having at least 60% identity to amino acids numbers 57 to 93 in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:2) over a 36 amino acid sequence, wherein the purified protein is not contained in a gel.